✓ Correspondence
Genealogy

Correspondence (Genealogy)

Letters
from Minnie Clark
Genealogist

Newberry Hotel, Chicago
November 20/36

My dear Mrs.Chapman:

Congratulations upon the progress you have made with Tucker, and best wishes for your complete success. You are to be envied the opportunities you seem to have in this connection. I hope you can say whether or not we have been judicial in admitting on that line-Virginia Company the claim.

About Mrs.Clark. Was hers one of the names I gave to you? If so, I wish you would please tell me a bit more of your experience with her; for she did not impress me "correspondently speaking". Here is the whole situation as I recall it- for it commenced quite some time ago. To begin with, I should explain that when claims are submitted for regularly sponsored candidates for membership, those ancestral claims are carefully gone into without any charge what ever, either to the individual or to the Order. Some day, after I give up the work of verifying claims, a fee should go to the one doing the work of verifying, to come out of the membership fee, as is done in Dames and all other organizations I know of. But as long as I am President of this Order and do that work, I am not charging anything for my services in this respect. Nor will I do any research for regular candidates- that is, I do not do it any more except where it is some one I wish very much to have join us; or it is an especially interesting new claim. In which case, I may go to no end of trouble and even expense to put it through. But that is my privilege, as to whether or not I extend such courtesy. I used to do it for every one whom I thought might make a desirable member; but I was so imposed upon- found over and over that the enquiring one was really a professional genealogist collecting big fee for my work &c, that I quit this wholesale work gratis. Another thing I cut out that I used to do gratis, was toexamine material to see what possibilities there might be for would-be candidates who did not know whether or not they were eligible. For this I now charge ten dollars- merely as sort of consulting genealogist, to see whether or not is eligible or whether or not the lines submitted hold any possibilities or probsbilities.

Well, Mrs.Clark was pne of this last class. I had a letter from her saying a Mr.Robert Evans, who joined through Mrs.Talbott of Maryland, living in New York at the time, had given her my name as President and advised that she write to me for information. ~~And~~ She gave just the names she thought she was eligible through. I forget now just what but I am pretty sure not Eppes. Minter and Savage, I recall were the lines later submitted to me. I did not go into her case immediately but turned her over, for one, to Miss Gallaher. Nothing seemed to come of it, ~~and~~ when I had another letter from Mrs.Clark- (I had asked Mr.Evans' address as we had lost track of him. She merely sent me the hotel where he had last stopped in New York, he having moved to Canada in the meantime). As I now recall, I then sent her name to you. Eventually, I had a letter from Miss Gallaher enclosing a lot of Minter and Savage-Strother data(Anthony Savage) and I forget what else; and Mrs.Clark's check for ten dollars, with note from Miss Gallaher explaining she had written Mrs.Clark to send all the data she had and I would examine it for ten dollars. I replied to Miss Gallaher: That Savage through Anthony had not been accepted; and I pointed out the possibilities of Minter and some other line, sending what data I happened to have on hand.

Last summer Mrs Clark wrote me she had sent me ten dollars for research to furnish her with an FFV line and "surely" I ought to have in my files something that would make her lines eligible. Would I look again so I might have overlooked something

I wrote her that she had very little conception of genealogical work if she thought any one whose work was worth a penny, would even start a research for ten dollars. That I had been asked to examine what she had and report upon its possibilities, for my regular fee for such work for those desiring to work up eligibility; and this I had done. I sent her letter and copy of mine on to Miss G. who wrote she had explained exactly to Mrs. Clark what the ten was for. She had even gone so far to say she thought I might undertake the research for $200. She had no authority to do this for I did not wish to undertake any such promiscuous commission.

If this is the same Mrs. Clark, possibly she profited by my letter; and if you have found an Eppes line for her, you evidently recognized some such connection that I overlooked or perhaps she found that in her lines, Some people seem to think I havd all Virginia families on tap and have only to turn the spigot; and not only that, all royal linea slso. Right now among my unanswered letters(holding over from last summer. So you see you are being favored, dear lady) is a letter from one of our early members whose line I not only completed gratis but also added her royal descent through which she joined Runnemede &c. And now I have this hurry-up apeal from her for a friend of whom I never heard whom she wishes to get into Americans of Royal Descent and whose claim is not quite complete. She is sure I will do this as I did it for her and she knows it is a bobby of mine. I cannot tell you how much of this kind of thing I have- not many such letters from members, I am glad to say. But from people who will appreciate it so much if I will examine their data; complete their lines, &c &c; and as a rule, not even a stamp for reply. Do you wonder I quit this sort of thing gratis. You see it got out that I would help prospects gratis and evidently the word has spread and spread. I really do a lot of it still; but I claim the right to choose the people I am willing to help gratis. Or, for that matter, even for a fee. I have got to consider them very worthwhile and the thing or line they are interested in as worthwhile, to help even for a fee. I am too busy these days on things that interest me more than mere ancestral lines.

Now, I am not turning down Mrs. Clark. Her somewhat pert letter- to say the least, it was not gracious- did not make a very good impression. Hence I wish to know more about her from your standpoint, before I take up her name with any one in New York. They are a bit chary there about taking up or being responsible for "new people", as such can prove very much of a nuisance. I had Mr. Evans looked up before we admitted him as Mrs. Talbott did not know him very well. But as he belonged to the New York Sons of Revolution that ranks high there, he was sponsored. So please find out from Mrs. Clark who her friends are in New York, though whom our members might get a line on her if they do not know her personally. Park Avenue spells money but that does not always spell FFV.

Now, I think I have made it plain in the past, that I shall be glad to "talk over" lines with you at any time; and help your work along in what ways I can; for it is work such as you are doing- the character of it, that I am glad to do all I can to encourage and promote. So send on your Harris material whenever you have it ready. However, I wish to tell you that I do not hold out any hope if you expect to connect Elizabeth Harris Archer, with Captain Thomas. Stanard's chart is most certainly wrong; and he accepted my correction of it years ago but was too small to publish the correction in the magazine. He accept4d pay for that Harris line as charted by him. I corrected it gratis for his early client. He promised her to correct in the Magazine. Then when several numbers came out without the correction ahe wrote him about it, he said there was too much material on hand ahead of hers, to get it in. The same thing has happened with that publishing committee, recently, about Price.

Of course, you may have something that I have failed to get hold of about the Henrico Harrises- some new record may have come to light to connect up Elizabeth and her brother William with Capt Thomas; for all I have been able to say of them to date is, that I have no idea who they were. Certainly they were not of the [illegible] Harris line for as I recall I have all wills in that line. Nor could I connect them with the Charles City or south side lines. In the data I sent Mrs. Doremus to send on to Mr. Stanard, I showed how it may have been possible that Capt. Thomas changed his abode and made a third marriage and so have been father(or grandfather, I forget which) to those two; but that I personally did not really believe this to have been the case. I am keen to see what you have done in this line. If you have clarified that brother and sister, you have done a mighty good job. I hope you have.

ORDER OF
FIRST FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA
1607-1620

Dear Blanche

Happy New Year and many more to come!

You have done an excellent piece of work on Mary Briggs and I feel sure I am going to accept her; but am unwilling to do so without the records *in full* of the items I have marked in the enclosed. I haven't time to copy the items so am returning your data, which you will please return *as is* — together with full copies. It has often happened where abstracts have been furnished me, that when I got the full copies, the omitted parts proved the most *helpful*, in connection with some particular knowledge I had or general knowledge I have had of conditions &c which have helped in solving historical & genealogical problems. I have only to remind you how I proved to you that the "James Harris" of the I. W. records — Alice

Cooper's first husband, was really James Harrison; also Samuel Mathews & Susan Constant & Mayflower &c. Hasts & others had seen and used the same material I did. (By the way Mrs Haylor has switched from "Sarah" to "Susan Constant" since reading my article.) The Mayflower part is in the October Quarterly.

I am not expecting to find that you have omitted anything important; but on general principles, we must have on file full copies of crucial records that are not given in full in print. I have put a lot of time on this data and it calls for more study than most would give to it. For instance, the item about John Flood's will, on first reading, gives the impression of being part of an abstract of said will. Upon verifying it I realized it was action taken some ten years after Flood's death. My main reason for asking for these copies - aside from the general one - is to get more specific information of kind of action taken - to try to determine if Fortune Jordan could have been mother to Mary. Arthur Jordan, Fortune's brother, was not born until 1627 per one affidavit or rather deposition; and in another, not until 1629. In other words Fortune Jordan herself in all probability was born somewhere in the 1620's. If the mother of Mary, Fortune had to become a grandmother within a space of some 36 years *or less*. Of course, she *may* have been older than George. Obviously, Margaret (Finch)

Flood was with her husband when he was in England 1629; and apparently Thomas had not been born (William evidently was dead) since John was only Flood child named in John's patent; I shall be prepared to act as soon as I get the data back with the copies, as I have gone over and over it; and all I have, & the Valentine Papers. I feel sure no one else has ever recognized the Briggs connection - at least you are the only one I know of. Certainly Dr. Tyler never caught the connection. But he could make the worst blunders. For instance - he states (16 Quarterly in his Flood data) that Thomas succeeded his father as interpreter in 1659/60; then just a few lines further on, suggests that it probably was the *widow* of said Thomas, who m. John Washington 1658. Poor man didn't have time to weigh such material as he had.

I am frightfully behind in my work so must close.

Love

Minnie G Cook

I'll write about Parker-Prichard later.

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Newberry Hotel, Chicago
February 22, 1937

Dear Blanche:

I have been very, very ill since you last heard from me. First, about Mrs.Clark: Owing to my first attack of the flu, and pressure of many other things, I did not write to my nieces until in January regarding her. They each had the flu twice; but as you know, they went to see her and wrote that they found her cultured and charming and altogether worthy of membership. But I have been so very ill since then, barely escaping pneumonia, that I have had to drop everything; and am now making this Runnemede matter the first order of the day.

When I have been trying for years to get authorization and the proper blanks for filing a substitute claim in Runnemede, it is a bit irritating to be notified I may send it (still no blanks) but it must be in within ten days of receipt of the letter. Her letter is dated the tenth but it reached here the 15th.

I am sending rough copy of the Austin-Lindsay line to the de Clares (have not time to check any more names or K.G &c); and the carbon copy of the American lineage outline that I have sent to Mrs.Talmadge for Mrs.O'Leary and me. Please note that I am giving the Club of Colonial Dames as my permanent forwarding address, as I am here only temporarily. I cannot subscribe-too many books now for any one who is boarding; but Mrs.O'Leary, I feel sure, will get at least one copy.

I have been laid up so long I am more than swamped. I shall surely get blanks off to Mrs.Clark at once. I think I still have some on hand. If so I shall send them myself and not delay to have Mrs.Hiden do it.

About the other Aston claims: Mrs.Wilson was a second cousin of mine and our lines were the same down to her grandfather. She has been dead many years and has no issue. She does not come in on Austin-Lindsay so if you wish it can go in as Aston with her(if you are including lines of deceased members) since there is no one- No! That will not be right either; as there are others of the line on her side of the family who might take the book to be authoritative and copy that data. Just list her with all those others for whom there seems to be no ancestors- in the 1935 book, at least. I have never had a 1936 copy.

As for the others: Mrs.Dickinson is neither a Cocke nor an Aston. Her clzim is one of the worst messes I ever saw, yet was accepted by N.C. Dames who obviously had not the sources for checking it up; and Mary Hinton obviously accepted it without investigation because N.C.Dames did. Anyhow, Mary Hinton wrote me enquiring about Thomas Cocke as son of Mary Aston(through which Thomas Mrs.D.claims descent); and there just is not a single think upon which to hang a claim to Thomas as son of Mary Aston- not an atom of proof, that is. And most certainly Richard the elder was not her son- the claim upon which Miss

Wheeler was admitted. I don't know what Mary Hinton has done about these claims since she enquired of me. She knows Miss Williams of Va. Dames does not admit the claims to Richard the elder(or younger) or Thomas.

I tried awfully hard to find some excuse for Mrs.Dickinson's claim, for I liked her and wished to admit her. I think she claimed Abm. Wood through Margaret Cocke, wife of Thomas. Anyhow she sent me whole Aston claim as she had it. I have never seen any claim so full of holes; and she had had no end of genealogists working on it- all of them(but me) collecting good fees However, I am not advising as to any of them. You asked about the other Aston claims; and I am merely letting you know what I know.

Am sorry for the delay about Mrs.Clark; also about the Runnemede material, which I really was not well enough to bother with, to say nothing of being swamped. We have had some beastly weather,although of late- especially the past week, some very mild.

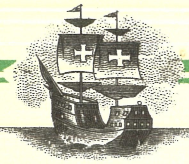
Most sincerely yours,

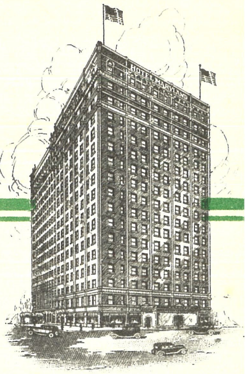
Minnie G Cook

I cannot lay my hand upon your last letters so do not know if I have forgotten anything.

We are having a near blizzard tonight.

HOTEL MARYLAND





900 RUSH STREET
CHICAGO

WILLIAM S. MITCHELL
MANAGER

Monday

Dear Blanche:

On my way down to dinner last evening, I dropped my letter to you in the mail chute by the elevator. When I got down, I found your letter at the desk. We get one delivery here on Sunday but I had not called for my mail until dinner time.

I have not gotten your data off; for when I sealed your letter, I found I was completely out of stamps except for the mess I coralled for your letter. I thought I had a reserve supply as I buy them by the hundred. I am glad I did not get the material off yesterday for it enables me to answer your wondering about the Dames accepting that Harris line of Margaret Carruths

I find in the Dames Register, that Mrs. Boatwright is fourth in descent from Robert Harris, d.1665. This means they did not accept anything back of said Robert that Margaret has as her line. But it seems to me I have noticed for some of the members, both Captain Thomas of 1611; and this Robert. But it is very possible that said members really did descend from both Harris lines; for the two lines did come together somewhere along the line, several generations further on. I forget just now, where the alliance comes in- but-Oh, it is that Mary Harris who married James. I forget whose daughter she was; but she was a descendant of Thomas of Henrico, Will 1630. Neither of the other women mentioned on Margaret's data (Mrs.Hall and Mrs.Stroud) is in the Dames Register.

While on the subject, I am going to point out some of the glaring blunders in that data. You may have caught all of them; but just in case you have overlooked any I shall mention those that appear to me.

Captain Thomas. I think I have already covered"Adrisn Osborne" By the way, did I tell you that Mrs.Pierrepont made what I thought a very good suggestion- that her name probably was Audry. The A was and is very broad in parts of Virginia and is in England. That is just a guess, however and leads to nothing. Point one- Margaret seems to have a mania for landing people in Wales, or rather, gathering them from there. I have yet to see the first thing to suggest Wales or anywhere else in particular as background for Thomas, although there are several possibilities.

2- as he was 38 in Jan.1624/5, he was born in 1586/7 and not

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3-"Came...to land grants from the Crown"- in 1611.
No land grants until after 1616.

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8 Major William: She eviddntly hax confused the two Williams, for Major William's will shows he died bet.April,1678 and Feb. 1679, whereas it was the brother of Elizabeth who died in 1689. She gives no account of Major William's whereabouts at time of Muster, in which no children are given for Thomas and Adry, yet has him born 1622. I have my own theory as to time of his birth that I havn't time to go into now. As Stanard gives Lucy as his wife, it is not surprising that others accept that; but again they and she are in error.

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7 Edward (1652-1735) m. Mary. Major William's son did marry Mary--- But- Maj.W's will, dated April,1678, shows that said Edward and his older brother, William, were well under 16 years of age; for they were to remain with their mother until they were 16- if she married before that time. If she did not marry, until they were 19. If Edward- the youngest son- had been born in 1652, he would have been 26 years of age at the time of his father's will- the writing thereof- April, All this to show the absurdity of the next generation:

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6 Nathan b. 1677. We know that Edward moved to New Kent; and that and the fact that he married Mary--- is all that can be definitely stated of him, so far as any or all the data I have, indicates/ for there ~~weer~~ there was at least one generation of Edwards and Williams in New Kent before these young sons of Maj.Wm. of Henrico moved there with their mother and stepfather. I wish very much there was some way of segre_gating those Kent-Hanover Harrises; for I know of no way to do it when so many of them had the same given names. Mrs.Pierrepont was awfully peeved at me because I would not accept Edward of the St.Peters Parish.Register, as son of Major William. But as said Edward's wife is not given as Mary, I cannot out of a clear sky say he was the same Edward with a different wife. I admit he may have been; but also, he may have been Edward of the other line also living right there. I am glad to give the benefit of the doubt where there is no conflict of evidences. But it is quite another thing to pick and choose at random where there are several of the same name. I cannot recall any Nathan in connection wit the Kent Co.Harrises. I feel we can claim K.W.William as son of ~~I am giving these things~~ Major William. I am giving these thgs for you to jack Margaret up on. .Don't quote me for I have questioned other things she has done.

HOTEL MARYLAND

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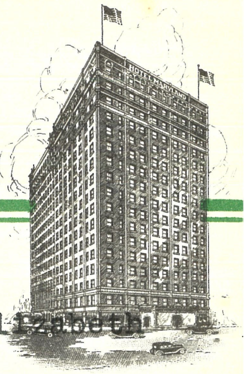
WILLIAM S. MITCHELL
MANAGER



I wondered if you thought the mother of William and Elizabeth Harris married Wells- hence the "father in law" &c. It was not clear from your letter and the data sent with Mrs. Hines' papers. Well, there is where all the rest of you are in error. William meant just that- father-in-law- as we use it; for he married Wells' daughter. That guardianship helped to confuse this point. By now, you doubtless have the John Harris-Dorothy Baker record that proves beyond any and all question, that John dying in or before 1638, could not have been father to William b. ca.1649-50.

I have never given Coleman any thought so cannot pass an opinion at this time. And let me remind you- please to send all records in full, when submitting any new claim, and not mere bastracts. For any omitted part may mean someth ing to me in connection with something else I may have, that might be overlooked by others who have given less time to our particular period than I. The Wmson omission is a case in point, as you mention yourself. Another striking illustration is Mr.Boddie's long dissertation in his manuscript he sent to me, on Pierce (Gaptain William). I couldn't see the point of it until he explained in the letter I sent you- that it was just to show that Thomas and Alice Bennett lived on southsude. It never occured to me any one would think it neccessary to prove that; for the mere fact that said Bennetts were eye-witnesses to the condition of that poor girl they found in the woods; and all the rest of those witnesses and the defendant, Proctor were southsiders, of itself dfinitely locates those Bennetts (together with Anthony Harham, later of Mulberry Island) at and near Lawn's Creek. But Mr.Boddie had not spent a quarter of a century hobnobbing with all of those people down there, as I had done; so did not recognize the situation as a neighborhood affair. I have not seen a Tyler's Quarterly since before Tyler died. I got so out of patience with him for using that publication to vent his own spleen and for making so many blunders that I just quit looking at it. But when it comes to htat, I have not had time to look ~~any~~ at any of the magazines for more than a year, except what have been sent to me. I do not subscribe for any ot them as the library is so convenient and my room not adequate to all the historical magazines
I do wish you could get a slant on that Claiborne claim of Stewart's that Mary Hinton has accepted. She will take the affidavit of other genealogists for American claims that she is not familiar with. Hence some awful things in Runnemede. Please write to Mrs.Hiden for blanks. I have only two or three.

Aff.,

Minnie G Cook.

Have ordered stamps thru Hotel & shall get your material off as soon as they come.

over

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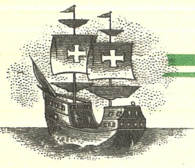
So sorry you have had worries. Do hope all ends well for all. Mrs Hilden wrote me your daughter was married or about to be; and I recall your writing me once before of her wishing to marry at seventeen.

And thank you so much for your very gracious compliments.

To my mind there is no question of the Day descent from Edward — Dr. Tyler notwithstanding. I have never gone into Day descent itself — merely looked into the Bennett-Day connection.

HOTEL MARYLAND



900 RUSH STREET
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WILLIAM S. MITCHELL
MANAGER

September 28/37

Dear Blanche:

Have been waiting to hear whether or not you had anything further to suggest in connection with your version of the Harris claim, before returning your data to you. I infer you have not or I should have heard from you. I was particularly interested in your positive statement that "Grace" was second wife of John Harris, for it was news to me that he had a second wife. Any definite evidence to that effect would or might alter the picture. I wish you would please let me know about this. I have not found any such evidence in your data but I have not had a whole lot of time to go into your material. There is much of it I have at my fingers' tips but never like to depend upon memory in arriving at final conclusions- indeed it is a matter of principle with me not to do so.

I have put a lot more time on Bennett than I have had any right to considering all I have before me and with correspondence piling up on me to alarming proportions. I have not been able to keep up with the FFV routine. As I told you, I submitted my Richard suggestions to Mr.John Boddie here, whom I met something over a year ago and we discussed Bennett. He was then having certain search made; and very kindly gave me a copy of the will of the elder Robert Bennett who undoubtedly was the father of the Bennett brothers of the land patent. For this reason I have not felt at liberty to give it to any one else. I never pass on to others data given me or placed in my hands either by our members or others, unless I have the specific permission to do so by those from whom I have received the information. Mr.Boddie never asked me not to give said will to any one. Any how, it throws no light beyond the simple fact of showing who their father was.

In answer to my recent letter (I have not heard from him, by the way, since I saw him at the Library more than a year ago) he sent me copy of his findings about the two Richards. He holds the same view I suggested- that Thomas and Alice Bennett were parents of Richard (1709-10). But he has no solution as who said Thomas was; nor the Pierce whom he married.

We are, however, divided as to the father of the Governor; for certain data he received from England led him to accept

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Thomas, eldest surviving brother of Edward &c, as the father of the Gov. But there are a few things he was not familiar with. So I have taken the time to work the whole thing out as I see it- time I did not have to spare because I feel this is one of the most important of Virginia problems- to send him and see if he still thinks Thomas the father. I shall let you know the result. But please never tell any one what I have just written you; for I should deeply regret ever seeming to criticise him for he is a very busy lawyer whereas I have no responsibilities beyond spending my time as I like; and I happen to like solving historical and genealogical problems when I think them worthwhile bothering over. I thought him one of the most open-minded students of such things I have ever met- willing to spend money and time to solve problems rather than just to establish some theory of his own. We can none of us be too sure of ourselves. I have only to recall how I had to confess error about Frances Greville, whom I had accepted as Frances Hinton, as had every one else, upon the strength of that one record, after having set others right about the Samuel Mathews as Governor. I don't claim infallibility any more than I grant it to others. There is this about it- no one else I know of, has spent the same amount of time (and money) on historical research of the foundation period- which of itself, has equipped me far more thqn most, to interpret things genealogical. As I said before it is against my principles to try to solve a problem without copies in full of all available records bearing upon a case and this holds at present, about Richard of 1709-10:

In this connection I am going to ask if you will send me all you have concerning Alice Bennett and "widow" Bennett, of the Isle of Wight records. I think I can at least identify her Pierce husband, although this will not have any real bearing upon the Bennett side. But I also have a theory as to her Thomas Bennett, although I fear nothing more than cumulative evidence can be brought to bear upon him. But I shall at least let you know what this is is if and when I get all there is available about either of that couple- Thomas and wife Alice. He obviously was not the Thomas of the Muster; nor the "tenant" of that name. Now please do not hesitate to say, if you would rather not send me this Bennett data. I should not ask it if you had not already sent me one tentative solution of the ancestry of Richard of 1709-10. Since happening to look up Alice in Valentine Papers- which I had not done before (I have them here in my own library) and also in one or two other printed works, I am confident she was the mother of said Richard. What I now wish is to see if any of the I.W.records can throw any light that may help me solve the Pierce end- that may in turn, suggest anything in the way of a clue as to Bennett. Do you wish me to return to you what you sent me on Bennett, with the Harris data. I shall return your Harris material as soon as I hear from you. I have not heard from Mrs.Hines as to Harris. I almost hope she will not take me up on my offer; for it will mean complete concentration and quite a bit of time that I really should not give for some time to come- heaven only knows, though when I really might find the time. It will simply mean dropping things I am more interested in from both the personal and historical angle, although I really wish that Harris problem might be worked out- or as one friend of mine put it, I really would like to "see it through".

Incidentally, perhaps one reason I think highly of Mr.Boddie's attitude towards his antiquarian work, is the very high opinion he expressed of mine- when I pointed out to him when we met, some things he had overlooked. He asked if I had ever studied law. Upon a negative answer, he told me I had a legal mind for sensing evidence. Two other lawyers have told me the same thing- one of them thought he was paying me quite a compliment in telling me I had a "man's mind".

I believe I did not give my authority for the date of birth of Dorothy Harris, daughter of Sergeant John- I didn't have them when writing, to look it up. I still have not my Muster back and have not had time to go to Library to look up what I am confident is in it- namely, that young Dorothy is listed in it but her parents are not. They are, however, in the "List of the Living" in Hotten. I have not the page reference but you can get it from the index. Then, the English record of baptism of John Jr. is in the Gleanings in England, 9 Tyler, 272. The record of Dorothy's Jr.'s age is McIlwaine's Minutes of the Council and General Court, 149. It would seem that the John Harrises were back by April 1625, from the reference to his visit to England, on page 52, Id.

Affectionately yours,

Minnie G. Cook

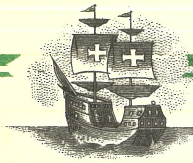
over

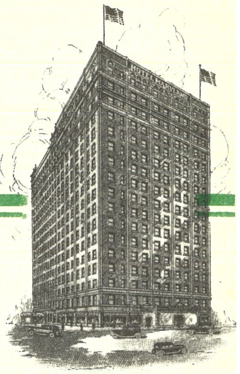
John Harris' land is listed (200a.) in the 1625 survey (Hatten gives the date as 1261) Stanard assumed those 200 acres were really Thomas' of 1611. Stanard didn't know enough of history of the times, to understand why Thomas' land is not in that list.

HOTEL MARYLAND

900 RUSH STREET
CHICAGO

WILLIAM S. MITCHELL
MANAGER





October 2,1937

Dear Blanche:

Am returning your Harris data first class mail the way you sent it to me. I hope it reaches you safely. I hope you do not object to the liberty I have taken in fastening the pages together more firmly. I fear they suffered a little being tied rather loosely with just string. That is it seems to have been a strain on the holes. The pages are arranged exactly as you had them, as all I did was to run the prongs through the holes as the ~~pages is~~ sheets lay together, strengthening those that were torn or much weakened, by sticking on linen rings.

I am having a hunt for some more of my Harris data. I have a lot of inactive material in storage- by that I mean that I do not have to refer to often. I had so much on hand that I kept out only data I had on proven or accepted lines. I did not mean to store away anything on Harris- that is, the Henrico Harrises. I have just the memiranda for some; and if I do not locate my own photostats and full copies I shall just wrote to Mrs.Pollard for more.

And by the way, I have two facsimilies that are most puzzling for they are not photostats. They are the depositions of John and Thomas of Charles City- I think you have abstracts of them- I know you have them as I saw them when going through your data but whether in full or not- Oh yes- only abstracts for I recall you noted"(signed his name)" to each item. These copies I have were sent to me by a candidate for membership who claimed Robert Harris of Hanover as son of Capt.Thomas; and sent these facsimilies with other records (copies) as showing that Capt thomas had a number of children besides Mary Ligon and Major William.

Well, when I saw these papers, I gasped for I was sure they had been torn from the record book itself- for not only are they facsimilies of the writing, but the color of the ink, old paper and look of age. I immediately sent them to Mrs. Pollard who said she gasped for she,too, was sure they were the originals. But to her surprise, they were in tact in the book. This was several years ago when while Dr.McIlwaine was alive. Neither she nor he could imagine by what process they could have been made. If it were not for the page numbering

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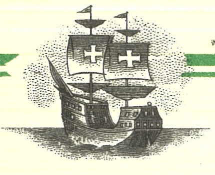

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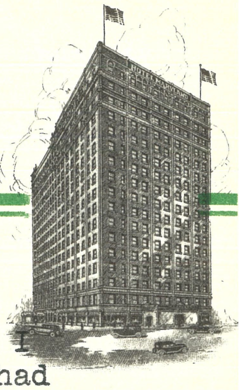

WILLIAM S. MITCHELL
MANAGER

on each that correspond with the pages in the book, I would think they were the original affidavits that had been copied into the book. When I asked the lady who sent them, she couldn't tell me anything about them as she had had different ones working on Harris and could not recall who had sent these particular documents. As they proved to be of no value to her so far as we could see, she told me I might keep them. I was just wondering if you had ever heard of any process that even duplicates the kind of paper- not photostat paper at all. Indeed, I think I had these before they had a ]hotostat machine at Richmond- at least, at the Library. I was at the meeting of Colonial Dames when the question came up (at Mrs.Cox's at Richmond) about securing a machine for the library. As I recall, they had not thought of it until suggested by the National Society at a Biennial.

Well, here is Mr.Boddie's letter. I thought I had made it clear to him I did know that Thomas and Alice of 1624, were living on southside at that time. And also, as I pointed out to him and to you- until we get all the facts concerning the children of Robert who died in Virginia; or definite proofs as to parents of Richard,Governor, it must be more or less speculative as to which one was father to the Governor. It is not only the dates giving his year of birrh- but the fact that Richard son of Thomas, was a minor at the time Richard og Va. was a Burgess; and furthermore, had two older brothers. Why then, would the minor son of Thomas be sent as manager for the Virginia plantation, when Thomas had no interest in that plantation. The ~~Farham/wi/~~ Brent will does not say in so many words that Richard was brother to the two Bennett sisters mentioned in the will; ....well, I simply cannot take time to go into this any further now. Am expecting a guest for dinner and I wish to get this in the mail before she comes as there is just time, also, berofere last collection. I must drop Bennett entirely for the present- shall have to write him I cannot see him for at least a couple of months to talk this over, for I need all my time and mind for something else. I am really sorry I told Mrs. Hines I would take up Harris for her now. But while my mind was on it thought I might as well go through with this partiuular claim, since the opportunity has offered. I am terribly behind with my correspondence. Please r eturn the enclosed letter at once. I should not send it if it were a personal one and should not any way. So please do not mention to any one, my having done so.

Affectionately yours,

Minnie G. Cook

I found I was out of big mailing envelopes and (over

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and to wait until I went over to town
yesterday to get some as could not
find any about here.

HOTEL MARYLAND

900 RUSH STREET
CHICAGO

WILLIAM S. MITCHELL
MANAGER

Oct 1 '37

Dear Blanche—

I asked you to let me know about "second wife Grace" you claimed for John Harris, to see if it would make any difference in my conclusions about Wm & Elizabeth as children of John. Well it won't so you needn't bother for I have found the record I mentioned but couldn't locate, speaking of John's death. *My copy* was from the record itself before Mrs. Nugent published. But for some unexplained reason I had put it with my miscellaneous Harris notes. I went thru them today just to see if by chance, anything might have gotten in there that I might need.

p. 113

This item is *in* the *abstracts*, but it is one of the *bad* mistakes in the indexing. Mrs Nugents abstracts are fine

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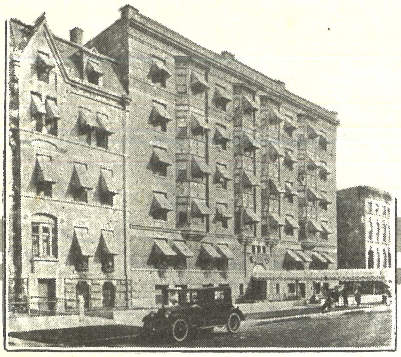
and I can't recall a single error so far in that respect. "Serjeant" "Serjant" John is in there twice and she hasn't indexed him in either place. On p. 113 Derrick to Johnson - Oct 4, 1638 - land bought of "John Baker and Dorothy his wife daughter of the late Serjeant John Harris - - -"

She was evidently the widow of George Cawcott when she married Baker - see this item - I am not taking time to copy. Also, see, p. 75 Nugent, showing that Dorothy was Baker's third wife - per pat. this page to John Baker, Apr 1637 Then, see page 317 - Pat. to Danl Luellin - where it is shown that Dorothy was again a widow, in March 1655/6 and land of "Serjant" John Harris is spoken of as though not all had gone to Dorothy. Only 63 acres in this "Luellin" patent; and only 30 acres in the other which I infer was really her land from her father, otherwise there would have been no point in mentioning that relationship

In any event, William Harris' various depositions show he was born ca. 1650 So that's ~~tat~~ that so far as John is concerned. I couldn't recall just what bearing this land record had; but my impression was that it obviated the possibility of Wm + Eliza. as children of said John. Aff Minnie G Cook



Newberry
HOTEL
817 NORTH DEARBORN ST.

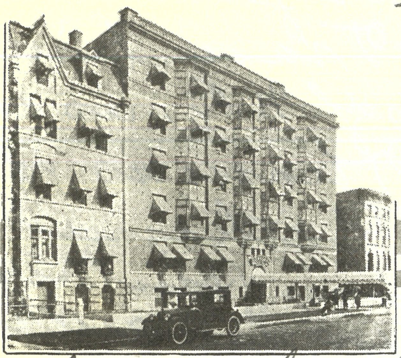
Chicago
Feb. 28/37

Dear Blanche -

The note from Mrs Clark to you was forwarded to me at Lake Forest where I was staying with my niece recuperating from my second and worse attack of the "flu"; I was unequal to work of any kind; and anyhow, I overlooked your note on the back about my making out new Runnemede line. I doubt if I would have felt privileged to do so without authority from Mrs Talmadge, which, as you know, finally came. I can't help feeling provoked at the way Mrs Hogan and Mary Hinton ignored all mention of the subject. My niece, Mrs Sterling wrote me, as I think I told you; and I have sent the blanks to Mrs. Clark who, I believe you said, is coming in thru Epes &c. By the way, I notice in the 1935 (I have never received 1936 Year Book) that some one joined Runnemede thru Frances Eppes. I am curious to know what that claim is and its authority — I mean, how he "crosses the water" and connects in England. I am not asking so as to use the information for I have no use for it — just curious.

I can't recall when Mary Hunton has ever acknowledged error in lines she has accepted, or has answered requests for proofs. I am a bit concerned, for the two members affected (Mrs Joy & Mrs. Mead of Washington) in Runnemede thru Thomas Tracy of Conn, all right to & including him, But he was not the Thomas son of Nathaniel (this claim itself a blunder as Nathaniel had no issue so far as known) nor was he Thomas son of Paul, (the correct father & son) computed to have been born ca. 1610. A Thomas Tracy came to Salem 1636 "of Watertown." every indication is that said Thomas

2



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was born about 1610 for he didn't
marry and begin to have a family
until about or after 1640. (I can't take
time to look it up) and t was then
he began to take part in public
affairs (in Pequot war 1639); + died in
1687 at Lt. Tracy + I think still as Deputy
to the General Court. Now note, that
all this makes 1610 see fair conjectural
date. But, ~~his~~ Thomas son of Paul
had brothers + sisters younger than
he, the sister being youngest child;
+ according to Visitation of Warwick,
she had a son born 1610. The
way Nathaniel was substituted for Paul
as father of Thomas of England, is
that the second Thomas Tracy
book (on Thomas of New England) ad-
mittedly copied from the first
one; and the first one gives Thomas
of England as son of Paul, younger
brother of Nathaniel who obviously
died without heirs as his younger
bro. Paul inherited the estate. Some

one went into an early edition of Browning on this Tracy line, claiming Thomas of N.E. as one and the same as Thomas of England as son of Nathaniel; and that is the way Mary Hinton accepted it. I wrote for her authority. All I ever got out of her, after writing about it two or three times, was that she would talk it over with me some time, That time has never come. In the meantime, application was made to me through Thomas of N.E. as son of William Tracy of Va. Upon examining the data & checking it, I not only accepted but strengthened the claim

I hold that if the youngest child of Paul Tracy of England had a son born in 1610; then an older brother (with two maybe three brothers between) could not have been identical with Thomas who didnt begin an active career until about 1640. Besides cumulation of evidences point to Thomas of Virginia as he of N.E.

Now, if the complete - that is, the english descent is not to be given, then no harm will be done in this instance if Mary H. has never

Newberry
HOTEL
817 NORTH DEARBORN ST.
Chicago

corrected. For in each case, Thomas Tracy of Conn. (where he finally landed or settled), is the American ancestor. But as Mary H. has it and all the other of the ten Tracy books (not ~~now~~ counting some two or three editions of Browning) the claim to Runnemede is through Barbara Lucy, the grandmother of Thomas of England. With Thomas of Va. the claim is through Mary Conway, wife of William Tracy & mother to Thomas. She was sister of Sir Edward Conway so prominent in Va. Company &c. I checked up enough to see that the women really have Runnemede ancestry. Am afraid I haven't been very clear in this. I hope my data reached you in time.

Love
Minnie G Cook

I've typed until I am tired. Hence this scrawl...

Chicago, December 18/36

[illegible]st, to answer questions I fear I may forget in the dis-[illegible] things. Fees: You know of course, that a child of a mem-[illegible]d as Legatee of the member for only ten dollars, if [illegible] said member's own line already recorded in the Order, [illegible]lly become a Hereditary member upon the decease of the prime [illegible] and to whom that member's insignia belongs by virtue [illegible] regulations of this Order.

However, to come in on any other line, it must be as an original member and the fee is the regulation one of twenty-five dollars. Of course there is nothing to prevent a parent from giving his or her insignia to a child who has come in on a separate line- provided a Legatee has not already been enrolled. In which case, said Legatee would have prior claim to the insignia. I am sorry to say the cost of these emblems ~~f~~remains $21.22; and the bars $3.75 each.

I shall be so glad for you to put Bennett on record for your daughter. And wont you please, dear Lady, get a copy in full of that record so often referred to as discovered by Tyler, where it is shown that Governor Richard's wife was Mary Ann Utie. So far, I have recognized her as the daughter of John and Ann Utie. But a Maryland authority on the Utie line, claims she was John's wife- nothing whatever being advanced as to grounds for this assertion. I am confident it is merely the person's own faulty conclusion from the fact that no daughter is given for John and Ann Utie in the census or Muster of 1624/5; and Bennet has always been erroneously supposed to have been the Richard of the land grant to the Bennett brothers in Virginia. You know, do you not, that I recognize the Governor as son of Robert Bennett the immigrant?

I am happy to report that your Mrs.Clark is very decidedly not the one I had in mind. It is a coincidence, though, that there should have been two of that name living in lower Park Avenue who became interested about the same time. I feel sure I shall have no difficulty in getting endorsements for Mrs.Clark; but I cannot promise as to how promtly this may be attended to for New York people are frightfully busy at all times- so much going on there all the time and of course especially so at this season. I had a letter just recently from a lady who usually winters there. She said she was late this year in getting settled; and found her friends all "booked up for weeks ahead". However, I feel I must have some one at least telephone her before endorsing. Her being a DAR wont mean a thing. Being a member of the Colony Club, however, I think will suffice to satisfy any New Yorker. We have not many members in the City though a number throughout the State. I forget whether her blanks are to be sent to you or to her; and I have not your first letter at hand. So please advise me as to this.

And now please let me know what you know about the proposed Virginia Register. I know the general plan &c. What I wish to know is, the attitude towards it in Virginia and especially in Richmond. And by the way, I can send Mrs.Clark's name in as one of our members- if I send in a lit of them, as has been requested. Please do not mention this. It is against our policy to send lists of members to any but members; and not even then for the purpose of circularizing. I can see no harm, though, in sending names of those I think likely to be interested- if it is felt there at Richmond &c, that the work will be conducted in a truly dignified way. And if that proposed historical introduction can be edited [illegible]ing approaching what such an introduction should be. She [illegible]as [illegible]ell have Eckenrode as any one else of your socalled histori[illegible] [illegible]ere isn't a soul in Virginia of whom I know who professes t[illegible] [illegible]le who has ever taken the trouble to inform himself on early V[illegible]. A native once told me the reason that so little is known ab[illegible] [illegible]arly Virginia is that all were either too lazy, too poor, too indifferent or too busy to find out. In the main, I think it should be "and" rather than "or",for so far as I have observed, it seems to be a combination of the four explanations in each case- especially the indifferent part. I am speaking more particularly of those who profess to be authorities upon Virginia history. But mostly, it is just plain dumbness in failing to grasp what is right before their eyes- like Mathews, for instance; and Tabitha Bowler as not an Edloe. Keep this under your hat, though. When I come across a Virginian who really uses her brain- as do you and Mrs.Hiden and some few others I can't help taking it out on you because of the others.

And now, thank you so very much for writing to Mrs.Naylor as you did, although either she or some one had already sicked Mrs.Tunnel on me about suggestions for said list; and Mrs.Naylor had already sent me a copy of the December Trails giving Dr.E's list. Isn't it past belief how any one who even remotely holds any claim to the title of historian, could be guilty of anything as raw as that list. One espects just that kind of thing of Mrs.Naylor. At least your suggestion may do a mite towards jolting her eyes open as to the utter stupidity of said list.

And now, my dear, why should I give one minute of my time to furnish a logical list for anything as utterly trashy and valueless as that proposed maportram? What possible purpose does it serve, save to furnish additional evidence of the superficiality of Virginia women so far as their actual history is concerned. Have you seen a copy of her "Pilgrim" map? I enclose a greatly reduced print of it. I think the full size is 17X22.

The first I heard of this new "racket"(for I can not think of it as amounting to anything more than that) was a full-sized colored print from, I think a syndicated magazine or paper, ~~in color,~~ sent me by a friend. I glanced over it and the accompanying article. My comment was,"What a fool";and it promptly went into the waste basket. Then came a letter from Mrs.Tunnell herself,talling me of the order of the Tidewater women. And if you will believe me, that thing is to cost $900.00. Can you take that in- that Virginia women were actually dumb enough to vote that expenditure for just a scrap of paper- valueless from every angle. It isn't even interesting; for what is there of interest in a map with a lot of names spread over it- especially when in nine cases out of ten said names will not belong where they are placed. I am morally sure Yeardley will not be; for George's branch did not come from the location that has been accepted for him. I paid $250.00 for the information that gives me absolute proof of the location of his branch. And I see no reason for passing it on for anything I am not willing to lend my name to in any way whatsoever, because of its utter superficiality.

I have not answered Mrs.T's letter and I do not see how I can. I cannot say to her what I am saying to you.If she can bulldose people into throwing away their monwy- well, its up to them. They wouldn't accept my list unless I wrote a book; and why should I care if they chose to continue blithely on adding to Virginia's dubious distinction as being the only people on God's earth so lacking in self respect as to tar their own nest. Mrs.Pillsbury wrote me in great distress when she returned from the Dames Council last year, about Massachusetts delegates(Dames) insisting to her that the first Virginians had squaws for wives for there were no white women. Oh, if only those fool natives down there could only know how ashamed of them we are they would try to inform themselves a bit before eternally parading their ignorance and lack of common decency.Think of Tyler's"Priorities" of "first idiot"; "first mixed marriage" &c &c.How can any one think of you except with the tongue in the cheek when they read all the nonsense about "cavaliers" and "Virginia aristocracy".

If any one could convince me of one worthwhile purpose that messy map can possibly serve, I might consider lending a hand, Certain it is- I see nothing but what I should be ashamed for my name to be even remotely connected with.

Mrs.Tunnell explained that thirty subscriptions at ten dollars each, would constitute the advance payment, which was one third of the total cost, the balance to me paid upon completion. Mrs.Naylor is receiving subscriptions. Now I do not mean to reflect upon any one. But you know that such subscription affairs mean- a split of somewhere around fifty-fifty or more. If the originators are smart, they will make it a down payment of a quarter to a third in cold cash, the promoter to pocket the rest. For usually the rest is the hardest to get and said promotor is "left to hold the bag."

I am really ashamed of this letter; but when I think how badly that money is needed for search work and preserving Virginia records; and think of that proposed Virginia Register going out with the kind of thing that Eckenrode is not qualified to write about Virginia's foundations I could just lie down and die. Right now I have on my desk a bill for search work in my last efforts to round out the family history of Temperance Flowerdew- ~~her family I mean,~~ far more interesting than any fiction or that faked Pocahontas story. I suppose I should have been selling myself all these years, like Dr.E- and the rest instead of actually keeping myself poor to get to the bottom of things. Well, I have done it primarily because I, myself, had the urge to find out the truth as to my country's beginnings; and I have been unwilling to keep jumping into print until I could feel satisfied I had covered all possible sources. I shall never be able to do this; for there is still needed and badly needed, careful search in Holland where- I am confident, Temperance was born in Holland while her father was serving there underunder Robert Dudley, Lord Leicester, husband of Amy Robsert, aunt of Amthony Flowerdew, father to Temperance. Remotely, to be sure, buttruly nevertheless, I am confident, that very name of Anthony, is of itself, evidence that what I say is true. The chain of circumstantial evidence is like a moving picture fascinating in its ramifications.

And by the way, when you are ready to go to England for research, let me know your plan of work and localities, and I may be able to offer some few suggestions. One general rule is well to know- and that is, to exhaust London before working counties. It was not there as here- marriages and wills recorded in their respective counties; for over there they had a mania for going to London to be married; and for probating wills in London. Also, for the first baptism, it is far more likely to be at the parish where the mother was from- if a different one from the father. Must close. Affectionately yours,

[illegible] New year for

You and Mrs. Minor & Cook

I mean exhaust all sources I have in mind

I have had a lot of interruptions

ORDER OF
FIRST FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA
1607-1620

April 9/37

Dear Blanche—

So sorry I could not squeeze in a note to you before. I did write to Mrs. Hines & sent permit for four additional bars— James and Rachael Davis; and John and Ann Clay. Thank you for taking time to get this in shape for me when I know you are so very busy— as we all are.

One thing that has helped to rush me is making out duplicate blanks for myself and Mrs O'Leary. At first I just felt I could not do this until after my return from Washington. But I so deeply appreciate Mrs. Talmadge's making the change for me when Mrs Hagan wouldn't— at least, she didn't. So I dropped everything & made out these lineage papers. I still have to take them to bank to be notarized. To my mind that is

put on my war paint and feathers & tore her "Pilgrim" Maportsan to pieces & told her that the proposed Va. one promised to be a subversion of history & I begged to be excused. I am going to send copy to Mrs. Naylor so I shall be disliked there more than ever. I am sorry but I can't help it. Love, Mamma G.C.

Per Washington papers, Mrs. Caperton has dis-carded Eckenrode for Rosewell Page as historian. I fear not much im-provement. Also, it seems she has run amuck the N.Y. Social Register over title.

a waste of time and space so far as most people are concerned; for my experience has been that "to the best of my belief" simply means "what I *wish* to believe". Any how, I *have* to go in person to sign these papers and bad weather has kept me in until today which is like a spring day.

Another thing is the long letter I have written to the Mapotsan woman. A special-air mail letter asked me to assist her in getting an "up to date" list of ancestors *through 1619*; + to send the information "in a day or two. Just like that! She sent list of forty names of "ancestors" and their coats of arms. Incidentally, Mathews is one. Of course it is quite possible she has succeeded where I have not in many instances. But certain it is she includes names where *I know* no present day descendants exist- such as Percy + Powell. And where *no official* arms were ever granted or use - as Jefferson. Well I

March 28,1938

Dear Blanche:

I don't believe I made it clear that it was to mrs. hines and not to me that Mr.Cabell first wrote about that m. license. she sent me copy of his letter. i wrote him at once to ask reference. Then when he quoted the item, I saw at once it was merely a matter of careless noting and then misinterpret~~erpret~~ing his own notes- just as you thought cabell gad done. i knew enough of mr.Cabell's habit of working to feel sure he had found that item some where. i never thought of thr moore book, never having seen it. i was greatly relieved when i learned the source of his note and just how it read. Then i immediately wrote mrs.pollard and copied for her just what cabell said of the reference. but she had already covered the ground and had written you; for i received her letter yesterday that you had forwarded to me.

i have burnrd my left hand very badly so am blundering along with one hand and mostly with one finger.

i felt so encouraged when i received your postal saying you had not depended upon stanards notes and you were having mrs pollard check up on cabell, that i at once sent your postal to mrs.hines by way of encouragement. however, she must also have found that moore note; for the postal i received from her, from florida, says she also has that marriage bond. i sent you yesterday, copy of my letter to her, giving my reaction to that. unless she has somewhere run across the actual original bond, i shall pay no attention whatever to the moore book. it not only has no support whatever in the record books; but condemns itself in that ~~in that~~ it is untrue so far as"only sister"is concerned, since that half of the item is false, the only logical conclusion as to the other half of the item is also false since there seems to be nothing to back it up- unless indeed, mrs hines actually has the bond, as she wrote she had.

and now, my dear, kitty arrington had hoppin send me his data which is to be returned to him; but no blanks. i don't know if you have them or if she has, at any rate i am sending this material on to you with the request that you corral those papers- complete them and get them in.

i simply cannot do anything about them with my hand in the shape it is in, it hurts to even use mr thumb to press the shift key so i gave up trying to do thst. it is getting on me nerves awfully trying to write like this, with my hand throbbing like the mischief. i shall not try to get her material off before to-morrow when i hope to be a little bit over the shock of this burn- sll the fingers are burned, and i am afraid i am in for a siege of disabled hand when i never needed it more. love m.g.cook

over

It has been - all of thirty years [illegible] Cabell did any Harris search work. He used to be a professional genealogist - before he became famous as a writer.

HOTEL MARYLAND
900 RUSH STREET
CHICAGO
S. MITCH
MANAGER

Mrs. Pollard entirely missed Mr. Cabell's point - the very instances she noted were the very items that would prove that Elizabeth Harris could not have been the mother of Judith - if that m. license date proved to be correct. Mrs. Hines didn't find it among her Archer notes until after she had sent me the copy of Cabell's letter. When she found that she, too, had that or a note about the Oct. 1688 license - or as she calls it, the marriage bond, it seems she simply accepted Cabell's view, that Elizabeth Harris could not have been the mother of Judith - which of course she could not have been, if said bond of that date actually existed. Now it is simply a case of waiting to hear exactly what Mrs. Hines has. I feel sure it is merely that Moore blunder. I hope so at any rate. M. G. C.

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LET US HANDLE YOUR RESERVATION

ORDER OF
FIRST FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA
1607-1620

Dear Blanche:

Many, many thanks for your most valuable book. I wish every one could realize to what extent these county records are contributions to history and not just to local genealogy.

Mrs.Hines said you were to visit her and she would show you the Harris claim as I worked it out. I shall be much interested in hearing your opinion.

Well, I finally got that Gallaher matter straightened out. I still don't know what Mr.Prichard thinks of it all. I mean to write to him when I get time for I doubt if she has been able to straighten it. The simple facts are these: With regard to Warner, is was exactly as I wrote you in the beginning about that, when you wrote me about Mrs.Parker or whatever her name is; and as I stated in my letter to Miss Gallaher, copy of which I sent to you. But I also corresponded with her about Clark and gave her some data- for which I never got one penny; nor did any one ever join on Clark. That Warner line is the only one she ever paid me znything for except she sent me some books-cost less than twenty dollars- for the Epps claim I sent you- or did I do anything more than tell you I had worked it out to my satisfaction. Any how, I accepted Mrs.Clark on the strength of what I worked out- and was glad to do so-I mean glad to give you the benefit of what I had done on that line, for the courtesies you had extended me.

Well, Miss G. has all but gotten on her knees about that mess- said she confused me with a genealogist to whom she had paid $200. for a royal line for Mrs.Simms- the first one to use the Warner claim I had worked out. She had written Mr.Drake of Nebraska that I had charged $200.00 for the Clark line that had been used for FFV by three people. Really, the woman was not "all there" when she wrote Mr.Prichard and Mr.Drake. But she will never use my name again to boost her wares. Now, listen to this: She got $400.00 for a royal line that was not accepted for Runnemede. According to her letter to me, Mrs.Prichard paid her $200.00 for a Dames line. She gets $100. for Dames or FFV lines. And I don't believe she ever does one bit of real work herself. I mean search of records. But of course, she has her father's reputation behind her; also her own connection with the Colonial Families series. She wanted me to go in with her on that years ago but I wouldn't. I'll enclose what I have just written to Mrs.Arrington- to see if I can't get some action there.

Love,

Minnie G Cook

All this just between us.

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2501 WASHINGTON BLVD., HUNTINGTON, W. VA.
MRS. PETER ARRINGTON
WARRENTON, N.C.

May 27, 1939

Dear Blanche:

Thank you very much for your letter, and the copy of yours to Mrs.Cabell. Also for the signatures, which seem to prove the autograph on the card, authentic; for although the card is signed "Mrs.James BarnchCabell", and the other is or they are her signature, the"Cabell" bears all earmarks of being by the same hand.

However, as I wrote before, ethically, it makes little difference as to whether one proposes or seconds as neither should be done without full satisfaction as to candidate's acceptability; and up to our meeting with Mrs.F. at Mrs.K's home, I shared Mrs.Cabell's impression of her, gained in a conversation over long distance when she called me up from Richmond, to withdraw her name, if the situation was proving an embarrassing one to me. Evidently she thought I knew of the other experiences- of which I did not know one thing until recently in Washington.
I was pushing the question of the authenticity of the autograph- or rather, to satisfying my self that it was really Mrs.C's autograph, because of the suggestion of"juggling", both in the Runnemede proposal and in ours. But aside from that,none of you, including Mrs.Cabell, is involved in the matter- now that said authenticity is settled to my satisfaction. I shall write Mrs.Cabell at once to tell her that she is not to be involved in this in anyway whatsoever; nor will the rest of you. I interviewd you simply to get at facts- the facts alone, that are a matter of common knowledge among a large number of you and told me mostly by Mrs.F. herself that night at Mrs.K's,

Whatever I may do or say further will hinge solely upon the issue- that the real sponsor and promoter of said candidate, was in honor bound to tell me that the name had ~~been~~ failed of acceptance in at least two other organizations; and she suppressed this information, although knowing it was a hard and fast rule of mine to refuse to consider any name for membership that had failed acceptance on grounds of acceptability. That is something with which none of the rest of you are even remotely concerned- not even Mrs.Cabell in this case; for in a way, I am responsible for her being in it at all, by stipulating that a Virginia candidate must be proposed by a Virginian. It was Mrs.K. who really proposed and who promoted the whole thing. I had already flatly refused to consider one name she proposed, on that very ground. So the rest of you just forget about it.

Love.

August 3, 1939

Dear Blanche:

First, I am inclosing part of a letter from Mrs.George Castleman Estill, of Miami, who wishes her daughter's Fry line carried back to Joshua, if possible. She gives the little they have. Considerable is scattered in various magazines on that line- allied with Thornton,as I recall; and one branch ties up with Nicholas Marteau. I simply cannot give my time for any work that is not definitely FFV material or gives promise of leading back to that, , not even for pay If you wish to undertake this- if she cares to carry on if you care to write to her- go to it. It is not anything I shall be at all interested in- for above reason. Please write her and tell her what you will charge. They appear to have plenty of money

Well, to-day, I rejected the 8th incorrect claim that I have had to consider within about a month- three of them being the incorrect Harris claim through Major Robert, to Thomas of 1611 and Claiborne. I do wish people would quit sending that in. The last received aside from that, is claim Through Filmer- first time for that. Line may be all right; but the Sir Robert and Sir Edward claimed, had nothing whatever to do with Virginia- hence is out. I tell you this in case it ever comes up for your consideration.

Now for Dawson- and I confess I have been "stalling"; for my dear- I simply do not see how I can accept it as given; and I frankly do not see how it can be cleared- though of course, that is not final. Tyler said,"anything can happen in genealogy". To analyze what you have sent:

First- "When Doctors disagree...". With part of the Dawson Book claiming two brothers lived to be 115; and the author or compiler claiming that the two Amherst brothers for whom this great age is claimed by an alleged grandson of the one- says they themselves were the immigrants- you ask me to accept as the father of said two, the Henry of whom not one thing is known except that he had 200 acres in Warrick, in 1704. Of course, he may have had a wife and a dozen children for all we know, since Warrick records have disappeared.

I think you will admit that it calls for considerable credu;ity for two centenarians in a family, even one given to longevity- which the Dawsons were not. And why, my dear, do you assume that emigration to America had dropped off to the extent that it was not logical that the two brothers- assuming they were brothers- could not have come over during the 18th century. As a matter of fact, three Dawson brothers did come over after 1700- one of them the Rev. William who, if memory serves me right, was President of William and Mary.

Blanche dear, I believe there is no one who is more willing than I, to allow greater latitude when it comes to cumulative evidence, and allowing for loss of records- if there is no conflicting evidence. Where there are contradictory claims or records- any body else's guess is as good as mine as to which if either is correct; and making a decision is a responsibility I feel I have no right- and no inclination to assume.

You ask,"Where else could ~~they~~ he [Martin] have originated

conservative society, it does
furnish something of a guarantee of a person's local standing; and therefore is a help where we have no members or where situations may be embarrassing if a member is put to facing a point blank refusal or acceding to the demand for an invitation.
Right now, Mrs.Wood as a candidate would prove a bit embarressing for this reason- within two months, two Virginians have been denied consideration because they are not Dames- one Kitty's friend- and upon the objection of Mrs.Hiden, as Kitty knows. The other is a Richmond woman who practically asked for an invitation in a letter to me inviting me to join an organization of which she is President; and in which letter she told me she has my same ancestry in Dr.John Woodson. In same letter, she gave the name of a friend in Kansas City whom we "simply cannot afford not to make a member."

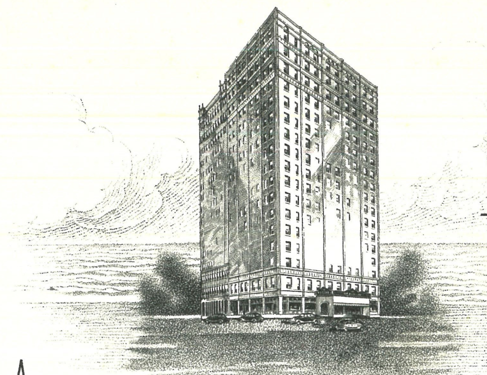
Well, my answer was, of course to thank her, both for the invitation for myself; also for the friend's name- which, I said, I would send at once to our representative in Missouri; and if the lady is a Dame I was sure they would be interested- Dames membership being one of our requisites for eligibility.
The woman's letter stamped her as not of Dames material nor our type. And, while we have the saving clause that that rule may be waived "under certain circumstances"; and undoubtedly Mrs.Wood's personal qualifications would constitute ample "certain circumstances"- it would never do to admit a non-Dame on a claim in which there is a gap in the records of more than a hundred years (1704- 1812).

There seems to have been something very queer about that Martin of I.W. case- a housekeeper mentioned in his will but not his wife, although he had a wife who took action to set aside the will. I have only the brief abs, in your Vol.III.

I am awfully sorry. Incidentally, why not get Mrs.Wood into Dames. Then if Dawson can be strengthened enough, there can be no question.

Love,

Minnie G Cook



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November 16/ 38

Dear Blanche:

Volume III came all right; and I fail to find words to thank you; or to adequately congratulate you upon the completion of this splendid piece of work. I am so glad this third volume is out before getting out our 1937-38 Message. It begins to look like it will not make its appearance before 1939, so many delays have happened. Now, we have to wait for report from the Cathedral authorities, of their action at the meeting thismmonth.
I am told we are criticised for placing a tablet there as "the Church is no place for politics; and anyhow we should do something for Virginia".

My answer was, it was too bad these critics were not on hand in 1619 to tell those delegates that the Church was no place for that first constitutional convention and first legislative assembly; and again in 1775 to tell Patrick Henry that St.John's Church was no place for his immortal "give me liberty or give me death" speech. And just what do they think we should do for Virginia when Virginians themselves- this stripe of narrow-minded people with no real sense of values, are responsible for the dubious distinction they have brought upon the State and Colony as being the only civilized people on earth so lacking in self-respect as to tar their own nest. Look at the State Chamber of Commerce's paper- the Commonwealth, in two articles they published in recent months about Virginia women, in which it is said "Beginning with the maids for wives" &c. What about Temperance Flowerdew, Lady Yeardley, ancestress of Bishop Tucker, now head of the Episcopal Church of America. One wonders if there is any sense of humor left in Virginia when things like that are still printed and allowed to go unchallenged.
Well, to come down to my own shortcomings: I must have had hold of the wrong calendar when I figured that the 18th of April, 1939, would fall on Monday. After I got home, I found Monday will be the 17th, making 18th and19th fall on Tuesday and Wednesday respectively- each of which is out of the question for us because full up with DAR doings. Consequently there will be no point to our

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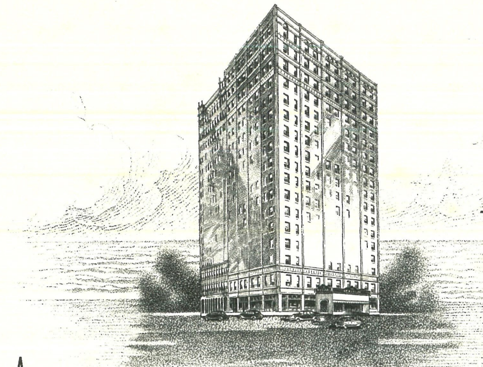

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doing anything on Monday the 17th and hence no reason for asking the cooperation of Runnemede. The only alternative seems to be to have our affair last of the month. And, as April 30th, which falls upon Sunday, will be the end of the Sesquicentennial celebration period- the anniversary of Washington's first inaugral- that seems a fitting time to dedicate out tablet, if we are permitted to have it; and our luncheon or dinner, whichever may be decided upon, on Saturday the 29th. I conferred with Mrs.Hodgkins and Mrs.Joy about this and both approved, as did Mrs.E.R.Todd, also.

The Hardy data came; but Blance, my dear, I am simply so swamped with so many things just now, I simply cannot give any time for the present, to checking over a lot of material. The most I can do along that line is to go over papers sent in with lines all straightened out with their own proofs. It is rarely that papers are submitted that go through without any correspondence to complete them. I have just gone over two sets I have to hold in abeyance. I still have that Message to get out; and a mass of correspondence some of it dating back to last summer. Also, I wish to send a sketch to the Commonwealth (Chamber of Commerce organ) to see if they will publish something of the truth about early Virginia womanhood. Papers and Magazines do not like to admit error- just like people in that, especially professional historians.

Please excus~~t~~e this paper as it is nearest at hand and split seconds count with me. For which reason I am inclosing addressed, stamped envelope with request that you send this letter and inclosed copy of legend I have submitted to Bishop Freeman for the tablet- to Miss Hutter, to save my writing these explanations all over again.

Again thanking you, my dear; and with all best wishes.

My best, too, to Miss Hutter.

Affectionately yours,

Minnie G Cook

We shall invite Mrs Talmadge as special guest of honor to represent Magna Charta; and if we issue special invitations, send them to Runnemede members.

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INTERSTATE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION - EXECUTIVE OFFICES - CHICAGO - R. HEISER, PRESIDENT

Dear Blanche - I wrote this chap, of course, that Thos. West is not an eligible; and that unless and until he filed full claims to Lukin and Whiting we could not permit bars for them. He had sent me the enclosed chart (which please return); and has filed claims for Salter - Weld - Codrington, West, Crashaw & Jordan. Then this note asking about Lukin & Whiting because I asked if he had traced his Page and Whiting. He had not and wanted my help - whether gratis or not I don't know for I just told him I hadn't the time. Then, in answer to this note - I wrote him you had these lines & I thought you had Lukin & Whiting - but we never give out information from members' lines. Suggested he should write you but must expect to pay for information as you have spent both time and money on your research. You may never hear from him. Anyhow - am just letting you know circumstances, in case you hear. Cora

I have just returned from a glorious trip to Pacific northwest, returning by way of Canadian Rockies with nearly three weeks at lovely Banff Springs Hotel. Love Mum G. C.

CAPT. W. A. CALLAWAY
FT. MOULTRIE
CHARLESTON, S. C.

Aug. 15. 1938

My dear Mrs. Cook:-

Am returning your Permit for the addition of the name of Simon Codrington as per your letter.

Could you let me know if the following could be added at this time:

Edward Lukin
James Whiting
~~Sir Thomas West, Lord Delaware~~
(de la Warr) ?

Over

Sincerely yours,

W. A. Callaway.

PRESIDENT
MRS.JULIUS Y.TALMADGE
1295 PRINCE AVENUE
ATHENS,GEORGIA

NATIONAL SOCIETY
DAUGHTERS OF THE BARONS OF RUNNEMEDE

March 11th,1938.

Blanche dearest:

Your letter received and would have been answered if I had time to take an extra breath-- I have been intending to send you some lineage blanks for you to use in making out the papers for Mrs.Harvey Seward.I suppose Mrs.Hines has written you about her. She is proposing her name for membership and wants her to attend the meetings---so I suggested that the papers be made out and ready to send in--and then we will vote on her name at the Sureties meeting on Sunday night the 17th---Of course she will pass,and then you can ask Miss Hinton to look them over and o.k. them if possible that night. Her check should be ready to give to Mrs.Johnston--and then all will be in readiness for the meeting the next day.

Mrs.Hines told me to send the blanks to you and you would make them out---so that's the story. And now,I am sending to you,~~thex~~ a copy of my letter with the permits for the luncheon ticket,so you may send them to Mrs.Seward--or write her about it,and you could order the ticket for her if you wish and she could pay for it---The point is,She cant send her order for the ticket in her OWN name to Mrs.Johnston,for Mrs.Johnston knows she is not a member--and hasn't even been voted on.But the ticket should be paid for in advance,so the number of plates can be ordered by Mrs.Johnston ----and that is the only way I know of doing this---you or Mrs.Hines could order the ticket --and pay for it--for Mrs.Seward---and have it understood with Mrs.Seward why you have to do this. Or if you and Mrs.Hines wanted to do so---you could of course have her as your guest at the luncheon--NOT as a member--but as a guest--and ~~xx~~ it is perfectly permissible to buy tickets for guests(two of them for each member) whether they are members or not. So do whatever you want to do---any way,I am sending you the permit for Mrs.Seward--or you could include ~~xx~~ her ticket in your own order--or Mrs.Hines could either.

Maybe you dont get what I am talking about.My brain seems to be going around in circles---but I hope you do understand. You are pretty smart and I give you credit for being able to decipher a half-looney letter.

I an also enclosing the nominating blanks.

Am delighted to know you have accepted the breakfast invitation---No one ought to be syrprised to see you there,for I have told them how much I think of you--and what a grand time we had together. They dont say a word around me--and from appearances,one would think all ofyou were the best of friends.

I've always been sort of "that way" about my friends---if I liked them,it made no difference to me what side they were on--or to which party they belonged--they were my friends----So,darling,you must be there--no matter how surprised anyone else might be.

Lets take these copies of the records to Washington by all means.I have Mrs.Shirk's own acknowledgement that the error was her fault--so I am taking that along too.She wrote me there was a mistake you know--in her 5th generation,one of the men married a woman whose last name should have been Bosley--but I had it Bosby.So I didn't do a thing but fish out the record she had returned to me--where she had made other corrections and had failed to correct that name at all.Then I looked up her paper---found that it was one of those terribly written ones--by hand--where the B could just as well have been as L as anything else--and send it to her--She then acknowledged that it was her fault that the word was misspelled in the book.

So by all means---lets have the proof with us---and I have an idea WE ARE RIGHT in every case. I dont like US at all,do I ? Well---we ought to know when we are good---and between us,we can say so---but far be it from me to mention it in the "Streets of Goth".

Must stop now,Honey-----I've never been so busy---just wild----what with Runnemede,D.A.R. Congress--and everything to look after about the meeting etc--- its enough to drive one mad.But I'm still here---and dont think I'm not.

Goodby,dearest---Hearts love--and I'll be seeing you.

May.

I like the work you've been doing - & I want a set of your book - Put my name down - ~~but~~ And I'll send money with order when I have more

[illegible]

[illegible]

ORDER OF
FIRST FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA
1607-1620

Dear Blanche:

As I have reminded you before, I wish copies in full of all unpublished records cited in support of any claim including gravestone or any kind of record whatsoever. Also, I must include in this all books not easily accessible in standard libraries.

I also request that anything cited in magazines be given in full as printed; for usually inly abstracts or extracts are given in such publications. If a reference is taken from some long political document, it may be permissible to give excerpt in full, with the statement of the exact nature of the document in which it appears, as well as the volume and page of the publication. I ask this last because my time is so very full that it may delay work on a claim awaiting opportunity for me to go to the Library to verify references to anything in large sets of books.

However, volume and page reference to any of the following will be sufficient, as I have these works in my own Library- together with some others- family genealogies that I do not list here for I do not always accept these as proof:

The Muster of 1624/5- MS copy of the original MS or rather, a contemporary copy thereof, in Public Revord Office and Library of Congress.(In citing this please always give the Hott4n page)
Hen
Hening's Statutes.
Revords of the Virginia Company
Journals of the House of Burgesses 1619-1704.
Minutes of the Council and General Court.
Nugent's Abstracts of Land Patents, Vol.1
Brown's Genesis of the U.S.
Edwadd Arber's Works of Capt.John Smith
Valentine Papers
Slaughter's Bristol Parish
Chamberlayne's " "
St.Peter's Parish Register (New Kent)
Wise's Eastern Shore
Peter and Richard Jones (Fothergill)
Tyler's "Cradle" (1906 edition)
Majors and their Marriages (Cabell)
Thomas Book (Lawrence)
Virkus' Compendium,Vol.1.I do not accept this as authority
    but one sometimes gets leads from it.
Browning's Am. Royal Descent-vol.viii (1920)
The Winstons (Torrence)-this has West chart.

Colonial Dames Register (19
Woodson (Woodson)

I have fully as many more, including your own valuable I.W. Marriages; histories, genealogies, later records- two volumes of Mrs.Ardery's Kentucky records &c &c, that are not so likely to be referred to because of later periods; or else family works that are not as fully authenticated as should be. And Some that are superfluous in the light of later publications, such as Greer 's Immigrants. I have also Swem's Index; Index to Wills (Torrence) and to Genealogies (Stewart.) but these of course do not serve as references for claims.

Sincerely yours,

Minnie G Cook

I thought this list might simplify your work, when sending me claims for verification. Mrs. Arrington's papers not yet received.

ORDER OF
FIRST FAMILIES OF VIRGINIA
1607-1620

Dear Blanche -

If I had the lineage blanks here I would make an attempt at weeding out the definite data that applies in the case, But as I haven't them - am not familiar with the claim beyond the Flood part and still have not been able to even begin the ms. for my Message that should have been out before now - and now with this injured hand - I am about ready to give up. I don't know if I told you I was laid up two weeks this month with "flu", Still cough some, I had planned to move April 1; but the Maryland management urged me to try a room higher up, to see if it would not make a difference in the traffic noises, So the last of last week, they moved me from 8th to 16th floor - next to the top floor, It is much better up here I was going to a lovely place on lake shore but it is much farther from the Library as I would have to take taxi back and forth. So as they offered me this more expensive room at same rate I was paying in my other room, I decided to at least try it for a while, as this hotel is only three blocks from Library.

I am enclosing postage for registering the enclosed data back to Mr. Hoppin but he gives no address. Do you know it? I don't. It took only 43¢ to mail it to me including Mrs. A's letter.

As soon as my hand gets in shape and I get my Message off, I'll get that Flood "story" in shape. All used up tonight so must close. I asked Mrs Arrington to return the blanks to you if she has them. Your letters read as tho' she had them but as she does not mention them I am wondering if she expected you to send them to me. How I wish she had attended to all this while I had all the Flood matter at my fingers' tips. In the meantime so many things have come up — including the Harris scare — that I have to start all over again with Flood.

Love M. G. C —

National Society Daughters of the American Colonists

SMITHFIELD VA.
AUG 16 11 AM
1939

Mrs. Lewis L. Chapman
~~Smithfield, Virginia~~

c/o Guy B. Olum
807 N. Atlantic Av
Daytona Beac
Florida

MRS. WILLIAM FRANKLIN STONE
406 EAST AND WEST ROAD
LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN
TENNESSEE

NATIONAL SOCIETY

DAUGHTERS OF THE BARONS OF RUNNEMEDE

FOUNDER AND HONORARY PRESIDENT
MRS. ROBERT G. HOGAN, DECEASED
OAK GRANGE
CATONSVILLE, MARYLAND

PRESIDENT
MRS. JULIUS Y. TALMADGE
1295 PRINCE AVENUE
ATHENS, GEORGIA

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
MRS. HENRY B. JOY
GROSSE POINTE FARMS
MICHIGAN

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
MRS. ALBERT L. CALDE, 2ND
534 ANGELL STREET
PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT
MISS STELLA PICKETT HARDY
1419 CLIFTON STREET
WASHINGTON, D. C.

RECORDING SECRETARY
MRS. SAMUEL GREEN BIGGS
2501 WASHINGTON BOULEVARD
HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
MRS. G. L. H. BROSSEAU
NORTH STREET
GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT

TREASURER
MRS. ROBERT J. JOHNSTON
HUMBOLDT, IOWA

REGISTRAR
MRS. MARGARET SCRUGGS CARRUTH
3715 TURTLE CREEK BOULEVARD
DALLAS, TEXAS

HISTORIAN
MRS. JAMES BRANCH CABELL
3201 MONUMENT AVENUE
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

HERALD
MRS. DOROTHY SMALLWOOD GEARE
% MRS. RICHARD W. HYNSON
3435 34TH PLACE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Sunday 27th(1939)August

Blanche old dear:

Many thank for the letter. I needed my own "hunch" verified - I didnt know you had questioned the line...sorry if I upset you...but I felt there was a lack some'ers. I've written May asking that we have a ruling that each generation be given its vol.p.etc.proof immediately following(as you and Kitty make out papers) and hope she will see fit so to "rule". Also,told her I was unwilling to sign those papers without more detailed proof of the connecting link as the relative(Col.Chas Bryan) had evidently not been satisfied with the thing as is. I feel we are likely to involve ourselves if we "pass" another on this line since he has "raised" question on it at all...I'm leery,and wont sign without her O.K.So,I've put it square up to her. What called my attention was the three colors of ink at the "immigration" point! Haha! Strange business at the cross-roads,says I. Where's the "bluddy corse"? I found! So it goes!

Of course you understand I have no business in this world to meddle except I feel the society should be doubly careful - rather as careful as it possibly can on verifying lines before accepting them. Once in,is in. But that person who is in on a "questioned" line I feel should leave no stones unturned either to verify it or get herself printo another "bullet-proof" line! Nor does her "acceptance" and being "in" make it a foregone conclusion others must be admitted on samesaid line...oh no! oh no! Were it you or I,would we be "admitted"... nay,nay!!! So I feel sister Steele should get herself more proof or another line and same by the other two already in... I'm hard-hearted Hannah!

Kit was here last week..bless her...and she let me peruse the Complete Peerage as well as her Fleet,King and other "source" material. I had a marvelous time with that gold-mine of data! Its been terrific-hot here,and its laid me low,literally - but I'm tough so I'll survive(bad news to you,eh?).

I'm all a-whirl with details for a "home-made" Circus to raise money for our Little Theatre,and so must tear out now on some odds & ends for it.

Again -"menny Thenk"and much love

Peggy

August 17th, 1939.

Dear Margaret:-

Why did you do this to me? I have nothing to do with it and I wrote Miss Hinton a long time ago, that it all sounded like a "fairy tale" to me.

I have not checked the English record but I do not doubt that it is not all right up to "Lady Alice" and I feel certain that the line is all right back to William Bryan. The weak point is, where is the proof that William married this Alice Needham. We know in the Isle of Wight records that someone named MacLand called Needham Bryan grandson - Of course it is possible that she might have had Needham children but____? The Nansemond records being gone it is hard to know or learn much about the Bryans, but there is enough in the land records ~~of~~ a Isle of Wight County records to indicate that the Bryans were here a generation before the time claimed for William's immigration. Then too I know there were Needhams in Elizabeth City County, just across the James from Nansemond. All records here have been destroyed prior to 1691 - so there is no hope of proving anything here. Mrs. Steele certainly has as much right to belong as the other members and I do not doubt but what she has the Needham ancestry, but I do have a doubt that she gets it this way. Can't the Mr. Bryan who had the English research done furnish the proof of the marriage? Until it is found, there is bound to be a doubt. Please keep me out of this if you can.

I was called to Florida suddenly because of the illness of my little mother. I am thankful to say that we all believe she will recuperate.

Have you seen Kitty recently?

Love,

IN HONOR OF

AMERICA'S FIRST CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

WHICH MET IN THE CHURCH AT JAMESTOWN VIRGINIA

ON THE 30th AND 31ST of JULY 1619

BY THEIR ADOPTION OF THE

GREAT CHARTER OF LAWS ORDERS AND PRIVILEGES

EMBODYING THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT

AND

"ONE EQUAL AND UNIFORM KIND OF GOVERNMENT OVER ALL"

THEY LAID THE FOUNDATION OF OUR FEDERAL CONSTITUTION

Conscious of the fact that including mention of the prayer with which the assembly opened made the subject matter involved, I sent copies of what I had hurriedly drawn up to several of you for criticism. Only one has - Mrs P. W. Hiden, and Mrs Joe Hiden who was visiting her, drew up the above. I think it such an improvement I am sending it on to Bishop Freeman. Of course the names follow. Cathedral Board has not acted yet. Minnie G. Cook

Dear Martha and Blanche:

Are you two very much interested in this Hardy &c claim? If so, I shall gladly go ahead and work out my theory out of gratitude to you two for your many courtesies to ~~you~~ me. I fancy it does mean something to each of you, since Martha wrote me about Hardy once before; and I knowBlanche is interested from the Bennett angle as her daughter descends from Alice Bennett- or so I recall, from former correspondence.
Unless this means really something to the two of you, I shall pass it up for it will mean a lot of work and time that I would not undertake upon my own, especially at this time when I am swamped with official work, for less than a hundred dollars; but which I shall go ahead ~~of~~ with as a slight token to each of you in appreciation of favors each has conferred upon me.

I did not intend to touch it at present, anyway; but having that research data here worried me for fear something might happen to it; so I glanced over it to see if I could dispose of it with a passing word.

I'll say this, right now* I shall unhesitatingly accept Hardy and Harding as they appear in this data, as one and the same name. Dancy and Dancing Point, across the river is a parallel case, like many others.

I'll say here, too, that Mr.Boddie gives Alice as wife of Thomas, because I showed him she was. He had accepted at face value, Stanard's blunder in the Magazine; and it had led to further error by Mr/Boddie.

I'll say here, too, that Jackson is out. I wont go into particulars at this time, except to say you must remember that Stella Hardy wrote her book (if that is what is referred to) many years ago, before she knew as much as she does to-day. I simply do not accept it at all. Here is one reason. She gives, as established fact, that John Carter of Corotoma, was born 1620, I forget the county but same one Edward Carter was from. I wrote for her authority. She said Stanard. I wrote to him and he was furious. Said he only wrote her that John might have been from that county; and he didn't give year. I think I still have his letter.

I wish to add that I shall not be able to give time to working out dull line- through Hardy, I mean.What I shall undertake to establish is that those Jackson girls were notBennett at all- but daughters of Elizabeth Pearce(Barham); and granddaughters of Thomas of the Assembly, 1619. In any event, they are eligible through the mother, Alice; and either Thomas Bennett or her Pearce or Pierce husband. Here is one questionI wish each of you to answer- have you a single item to prove that their mother was Bennett? I did not go into this angle with Mr.Boddie for I had not worked it out- have not yet given the time to check it as fully as I wish before putting it on record. I gave him correct Bennett marriage and proved it to him, as he had been generous in sending me his English findings. I wish very much I had collaborated with him in that book. It is a shame he spent so much time and money and then has so many errors historically. Accepted what he found on library shelves, as he is too busy to plod through and weed out blunders..
Don't give my findings to any one else.I forget who Martha said this Hardy claim is for. If for some very particular friend or a client, all right. But I shall wish it made clear, that it is not to be given out right and left, unless it is some client who is paying well for it. I have found that to most people, who get things done for them, they think they have almost done you a favor to accept it gratis. I mean genealogically

I am keeping the main copy of the Mary Blunt analysis for our files; but have a carbon copy for Mrs.Arrington, also, if she ever sends in her papers!Couldn't you pan her good and plenty!What I think is, that she sent the whole thing off to Hoppin as she calls him for him to fix up. I wish I had had sense enough to hold his papers until she sent her blanks in. I was so terribly swamped and am getting more so every day (you should see what has piled up on me.) Any how- it is not your worry. You did all you could. She is merely your client and not your candidate. I am glad I spared you that by suggesting that you should not be one of her sponsors. I never like for the one who does the work, to be a sponsor. Of course, I do not refuse to accept any one as such; but I think it looks better for both the candidate and the genealogist-

Did I say anything to you about my Marriage Law article? I sent it to Dr.Swem just a week ago. Usually I hear at once but this may be busy time of year.

Have you circularized any of the libraries about your records? I have been intending to take it up with Newberry if they do not have them; but I have been there but once since I have had the copy-(or is it twice) and then so hurried I could not enquire. My own library answeres most of my needs. I got Mrs.Pollard to check my article as it was mostly grounded on notes I took a generation ago. Oh yes, I have been to Library twice, for I went there just to look up that Moore book and hurry right back as I had an appointment.

I have been interrupted a lot- so many people pass through Chicago and everybody comes here at some time or another. The husband of a niece is in town right now and I am expecting him any minute for dinner.

By the way, did I ever answer you about David Mansell? Mr.C.K.Hill and I worked hard over him; but could not find him an eligible. I think we foundonly mention of daughters, by first names only, with not a thing to indicate whom they may have married, if any one. They did not tie up anywhere. Any how, I know we did not get any where with it. I considered him quite the best one I worked with. He had made such general search and carried well what he found. He was a great help to me in sending me photostats of anything he thought I was interested in. For instance, I hoped to connect Captain William Powell with some of those to-day; but he sent me a sheaf of records that seem to prove the line died out in third generation. I know a lot of people did not get along with him but we hit it off fine, and I have missed him.

Affly, Minnie G.Cook

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Affly, Minnie G.Cook

Dear Blanche:

Under separate cover, I am sending the Flood matter- thank the Lord!!I never worked harder over any thing but I think between us we have worked out a pretty plausible case. Unless you have clients in view from whom you can get fees, you have my permission to publish this in one of the magazines, if you think they will be interested, under our two names. Seems to me I saw several in that Virginia Social Record who descended from John Washington of Surry- or is it in Runnemede?

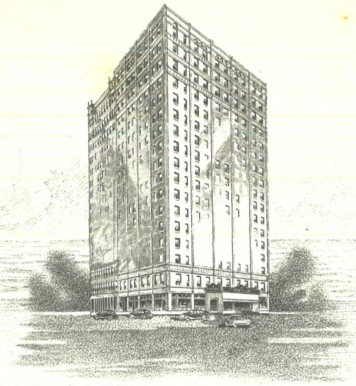
Herewith is Dr.Taylor's letter you wished preserved. I asked you to make a copy and let me keep this; but now that I have covered it, I do not care for the letter. I cannot understand why any one who is willing to spend the time and money, will do as careless reading as he does at times; and be so critical ~~so critical~~ of others for holding to a theory unless and until disproven. He, for instance, holds that the other John Flood could not have been son of Colonel John because he is not listed as Junior, except in the one patent where, so Taylor claims, it is written in a different ink. Some one had the mistaken notion they were enlightening the public, I suppose, by putting that in by way of explanation. If he used his wits as he went along without just seeing one thing at a time, he would have discovered that very frequently the son is not called junior, where the father has a title, as in the case of Captain and Colonel John Flood. In the Hill patent I have cited in this Flood paper, Thomas Hill Jr., is not called Jr, for that very reason, his father is listed in the headrights as Captain and therefore, Thomas just as Thomas. Mary Hill the daughter, is not called Mary Jr. either, for her mother, Mary, had then become Mary Bushrod.

Well, I am too tired to sputter over Taylor, for I have ceased to think very much of his estimate of either people or of genealogical work. I think I have him answered in the two points he raised.

There is one place in your original notes- sent me- where I think you have the wrong number for the record Book. I am too tired now- no, I'll look it up- I thought I had put the papers away:

On page 4 of these notes, you have the Briggs-Blunt indenture of July 5, 1681, as in Surry Bk.2,p.296; yet, on same page, you havr Briggs will, "made in 1681"- probate not given, as in Surry Bk.2, p.58.

I used the indenture but not the will, as evidence, so the references did not bother me; but it seemed to me the record of that will must be quite a bit later than that of the deed in November, 1681 and that it should be possibly Book 3, p. 58. Please let me know as to this. It probably will never make any difference, only I shall keep this data if any questions arise, and of course wish it to be correct.



Hotel Maryland
Near LINCOLN PARK AND LAKE
LOOP, SHOPS AND SHOWS
900 RUSH STREET Chicago

AIR CONDITIONED
DINING ROOM
CLOISTER INN TAVERN
AND COCKTAIL LOUNGE

September 3, 1938

Dear Blanche:

A thousand thanks for the second volume of your splendnd work which, as was to be expected, measures up to your usual fine standard. And needless to say, I am immensely relieved and pleased to receive Mrs.Arrington's papers. I was on the point of just copying the skeleton as given in Virkus and turning that in, akthough I do not accept that work as authority, but I was satisfied her claim must be correct down to where it turns into Flood, as she has been accepted in so many organizations on that line.

I was and am way behind in my work, having made a somewhat prolonged trip to the Pacific northwest, a section of our country I had never before visited, returning via the Canadian Rockies, which has long been one of my dreams. I was gone twice as long- more in fact- as I had expected, because I could not tear myself away from Banff Springs hotel, with its marvelous setting, although most people like Lake Louise best- think it more beautiful than the scenery at the Banff Springs Hotel.

I am heartsick over that "First Families of Virginia Association" and "Publication"- one of those pot-boiler publications, the promoters of which are simply out to trade upon a name for profit- as in fact, are those organizations trading upon the names of our other societies- the promoters, at least. Most of their members do not realize this.

In this FFV"Publication", their reprentatives are advised to get as long biographical and genealogical sketches as they can, since the said representatives make all the more money thereby, they being paid a percentage, the price varying according to length. I have a copy of their instruction to their representatives. According to the application blanks, any old Tom,Dick and Harry who had an ancestor in Virginia before War Between the States, is eligible. Isn't it sickening? I have not decided just what to do about it. Mr.Cabell was approached and sent me their letter. I had already received copies of their literature; but when I wrote for it myself- directly to the Richmond representative or rather, headquarters, no attention was paid. I have received matter from a variety of sources.

Things have not worked out as I had hoped they would towards a real celebration jointly of our silver anniversary and sesquicentennial of the Constitution, owing to the business "recession", since so many have had to retrench even in small things. For one thing, I had planned to issue invitations to all Virginia Dames who are eligible, as most of them are; and to Sons of the Cincinnati and Revolution. But the sudden turn for the worse in the business world made it a very bad time for any such move and consequently we have not the funds we might otherwise have had, With only an initiation fee of twenty-five dollars (I have not yet put the raise into effect because of the recession), overhead in printing and postage and stationery, leaves us with only a few hundred dollars ahead as a rule, although at present we have something over a thousand. But we wont have when the Message is printed; By-Laws which we should have had out some time ago; the roster of members all have been clamoring for but which I have put off until we can circularize the Dames &c. You know what printing costs. We wont be far short from flat broke.So I am still at a loss as to what we shall do but of course, this must be decided very soon. Have you any ideas? If so do please pass them along. I had thought, once, of proposing that the Daughters of Runnemede, representing the Magna Charta; and our FFV, representing the "American Magna Charta, combine this spring on April 19 (the closing date of the celebration period by the Commission, it being the date of Washington's inauguration)to honor the Constitution as ratified.

Of course that comes on Tuesday of DAR week and the worst possible night when the individual States or most of them, have their respective State dinners and the P.G's reception is that night. An alternate would be or could be, the Sunday preceding-April 17th- and have a religious service at the Cathedral commemorating the fact that the first American constitution was adopted in the church; with possibly a dinner in the evening. I wonder if Mrs.Talmadge would consider doing something like that for this year in place of the usual luncheon. I have not yet discussed this with even any of our officers because another suggestion has been hanging fire that I really do not like so well. I do wish Mrs.Talmadge could prove eligibility to us. She wishes to. I wonder if she knows that we have not been inviting heads of other organizations to our dinners, for lack of room. Several have attended each year, but always as guests of members, not of the Order.

Love

Minnie G Cook